

The Russian Alphabet

(with English, Polish, and German Equivalents)

| Printed Russian | Handwritten Russian | English | Polish | German |
|--|---------------------|---------|-----------|--------|
| А а | <i>А а</i> | a | a | a |
| Б б | <i>Б б</i> | b | b | b |
| В в | <i>В в</i> | v | w | w, v |
| Г г | <i>Г г</i> | g(h) | g(h) | g(h) |
| • Used for h in non-Russian words, pronounced as v in the genitive ending -го. | | | | |
| Д д | <i>Д д</i> | d | d | d |
| Е е | <i>Е е</i> | ye, e | ie, je, e | je, e |
| • Pronounced as ye (Pol./Ger. as je) initially, after vowels, and after Ъ. | | | | |
| Ж ж | <i>Ж ж</i> | zh | z, rz | zh, sh |
| • Polish rz is often written in old Russian as рж. | | | | |
| З з | <i>З з, з</i> | z | z | z, s |
| И и | <i>И и</i> | i | i | i |
| • German eu is usually written in Russian as еѣ. | | | | |
| І і | <i>І і</i> | i | i | i |
| • This letter was eliminated in the 1918 spelling reforms. | | | | |
| Й й | <i>Й й</i> | y | j | j |
| К к | <i>К к</i> | k | k | k |
| Л л | <i>Л л</i> | l | l | l |
| М м | <i>М м</i> | m | m | m |
| Н н | <i>Н н</i> | n | n | n |
| О о | <i>О о</i> | o | o | o |
| П п | <i>П п</i> | p | p | p |
| Р р | <i>Р р</i> | r | r | r |
| С с | <i>С с</i> | s | s | s |
| Т т | <i>Т т</i> | t | t | t |

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|--|---------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| У у | <i>У у</i> | u | u, ó | u |
| Ф ф | <i>Ф ф</i> | f | f | f |
| Х х | <i>Х х, х</i> | kh | ch | ch |
| Ц ц | <i>Ц ц</i> | ts | c | z, tz |
| Ч ч | <i>Ч ч</i> | ch | cz | tsch |
| Ш ш | <i>Ш ш</i> | sh | sz | sch |
| Щ щ | <i>Щ щ</i> | shch | szcz | schtsch |
| Ъ ъ | <i>Ъ ъ</i> | " | no equivalent | " |
| • Has no sound, indicates that the previous consonant is "hard"; represented in English as ". Prior to the 1918 spelling reforms Ъ was used at the end of all words ending in a consonant unless the consonant was "soft". | | | | |
| Ы ы | <i>Ы ы</i> | y | y | y |
| Ь ь | <i>Ь ь</i> | ' | no equivalent | ' |
| • Has no sound, indicates that the previous consonant is "soft"; represented in English as '. | | | | |
| Ѣ ѣ | <i>Ѣ ѣ</i> | ye | ie, je | je |
| • This letter was eliminated in the 1918 spelling reforms. | | | | |
| Э э | <i>Э э</i> | e | e | e |
| Ю ю | <i>Ю ю</i> | yu | ju, jó | ju |
| Я я | <i>Я я</i> | ya | ja | ja |
| Ө ө | <i>Ө ө</i> | f, th | f, th | f, th |
| • Used in words of Greek origin, equivalent to the Greek theta (th) but pronounced and represented in English as f. | | | | |
| • This letter was eliminated in the 1918 spelling reforms. | | | | |
| Ѳ ѳ | <i>Ѳ ѳ</i> | y | y | y |
| • Used in words of Greek origin, equivalent to the Greek upsilon (u, y) replaced by И after 1918 spelling reforms; represented in English as y. | | | | |
| • This letter was eliminated in the 1918 spelling reforms. | | | | |